

S.O. 43

In light of the growing reports in all areas of the country about alleged violations of the National Building Code and charges that CMHC is being forced to operate on a system of patronage, and in view of the serious lack of control in the financial and management procedures of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, I move, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath):

That this House immediately call on the Auditor General of Canada to undertake a detailed inspection of the financial management and controls of CMHC for the last fiscal year and, further, that this House direct the Minister of State for Urban Affairs to make an immediate reference to the standing committee to investigate and examine the reports of the series of articles in the *Hamilton Spectator* entitled "CMHC, the greatest national drain".

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can be presented for debate only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Paproski: Pierre said no.

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[Translation]

BILINGUALISM

REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION OF LINGUISTIC TRAINING PROGRAM IN PUBLIC SERVICE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, I ask for the unanimous consent of the House to introduce a motion dealing with an important matter of pressing necessity.

In view of the consequences of the Official Languages Act and since for years this government has based its reputation in Quebec and in French Canada on its intention to implement bilingualism; in addition, since there was no possible justification for the substantial cuts to the budget of the language branch and that such a decision was necessarily interpreted as an admission of the government failure in that endeavour, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette):

That the President of the Treasury Board explain the major reasons which prompted him to reduce the staff of the language programmes branch by 33 per cent while the reductions for the entire civil service were set at 2 per cent, and that this House direct the minister to suspend that decision until a proper inquiry shows that it is sound.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, such a motion can be presented only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

[Mrs. Pigott.]

[English]

THE CANADIAN CONSTITUTION

SUGGESTION MUNICIPALITIES PARTICIPATE IN PROCESS OF CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Donald J. Johnston (Westmount): Mr. Speaker, I rise, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

Considering that the major socioeconomic change in Canada since 1867 has been industrialization and urbanization, that the majority of people of Canada are metropolitan dwellers and that the Science Council has estimated that 90 per cent of the Canadian population will live in an urban environment by the year 2000, that municipalities are required to provide an ever-increasing number of essential services to our population, and that municipal governments are closer to the people and provide more essential services to their respective populations than any other level of government, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Stormont-Dundas (Mr. Lumley):

That this House call upon provincial governments to invite the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities to participate in the ongoing process of constitutional reform with a view to entrenching powers in the constitution so as to provide municipalities with the powers and revenues necessary to permit them to effectively discharge their responsibilities and to provide the services expected of them by the Canadian public.

Mr. Speaker: The presentation of such a motion for debate at this time would require the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Trudeau: Paproski said no.

● (1415)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

ENERGY

GOVERNMENT ACTION TO ENSURE ADEQUATE OIL SUPPLIES

Mr. Howard Crosby (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Deputy Prime Minister, in the absence of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

In the wake of reliable reports that there are to be substantial cutbacks in imports of crude oil and that Imperial Oil will be reducing supplies to the east coast refineries by 25 per cent, and having regard to assurances given in the House by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources that the situation is under control, will the Deputy Prime Minister tell us whether cutbacks in imports of foreign crude have occurred or are likely to occur? In any event, what action has been taken by the government to ensure that there are adequate oil supplies?